

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 AID-05 IGA-02 OIC-02

CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15

PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 NSC-05 OMB-01

EB-07 /105 W

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R 141350Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3204

INFO DOD WASHDC

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 2928

FOR NEA/RA AND IO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CENTO

SUBJECT: CENTO COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES MEETING APRIL 12

1. MAIN FOCUS OF ATTENTION AT CENTO COUNCIL OF DEPUTIES MEETING APRIL 12 WAS ON IMPASSE BETWEEN TURKEY AND IRAN WITH RESPECT TO DRAFT PAPER ON "POLITICAL GUIDANCE FOR MILITARY PLANNING". TURKISH DELEGATION HAS TAKEN POSITION THAT IT CANNOT CONSIDER REVISION 2 OF DRAFT PAPER UNLESS ITS VIEWS ON MILITARY PLANNING PUT FORWARD IN SUB-COMMITTEE ARE ALSO TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION (AS WAS DONE IN REVISION 3). IRANIAN DELEGATION HAS TAKEN POSITION IT COULD ONLY CONSIDER REVISION 2 BUT NOT REVISION 3 NOR REVISION 2 ALONG WITH ADDITIONAL VIEWS REGARDING MILITARY PLANNING. MORE SERIOUSLY AND TO SURPRISE OF ALL DELEGATES PRESENT, THE IRANAIAAN AMBASSADOR PROPOSED THAT BECAUSE OF CHANGES IN INTERVENING PERIOD, BEFORE FOCUSING FURTHER ON SOLVING DIFFERENCES REGARDING POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPER, THE SITUATION-IN-THE-AREA PAPER WHICH HAD BEEN

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AGREED ON EARLIER, SHOULD BE REVISED WITH VIEW TO UPDATING

IT.

2. IN DISCUSSION THAT FOLLOWED, US, UK AND PAKISTANI AMBASSADORS TOOK STRONG EXCEPTION TO THIS LATTER PROPOSAL AND URGED THAT SOME SOLUTION BE FOUND THAT WOULD ENABLE PROGRESS TO BE MADE ON THE POLITICAL GUIDANCE PAPER WITHOUT THE NEED FOR REDRAFTING OF THE SITUATION-IN-THE-AREA PAPER. OTHERWISE THEY SAID THAT ANY EFFORT TO REVISE THE SITUATION-IN-THE-AREA PAPER WOULD PUT CURRENT EFFORT BACK TO WHERE IT WAS SEVERAL YEARS AGO. THE DISCUSSION CONCLUDED WITH IRANIAN AMBASSADOR AGREEING TO OBTAIN GOI VIEWS ON WHETHER IT COULD PARTICIPATE IN INFORMAL GROUP TO CONSIDER REVISION 2 ALONG WITH ADDITIONAL VIEWS IN REVISION 3. COUPLED TO THIS WOULD BE THE SUGGESTION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL THAT PERIODDICALLY THE DEPUTIES MEET WITH HIM, NOT FORMALLY TO ALTER SITUATION-IN-THE-AREA PAPER, BUT TO HAVE CONTINUOUS DISCUSSION OF CURRENT SITUATION.

3. IN CONNECTION WITH ABOVE, WE HAVE HEARD SUGGESTION, WHICH WE HAVE NOT HAD A CHANCE TO CONFIRM, THAT THE DELAYING TACTIC WAS PUT FORWARD BY IRANIAN AMBASSADOR ON SHAH'S DIRECTIVE. THIS WAS DONE ALLEGEDLY BECAUSE OF IRANIAN IRRITATION OVER IMPLICATIONS OF LANGUAGE WHICH TURKISH MILITARY HAD PROPOSED FOR REVISION 3, WHICH IRANIANS BELIEVE SAYS IN EFFECT THAT ALL OF TURKEY'S FORCES ARE COMMITTED TO NATO, THEREFORE IN CENTO REGION IRAN WILL HAVE TO RELY STRICTLY ON ITS OWN RESOURCES FOR DEFENSE.

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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